

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE REVIEW

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



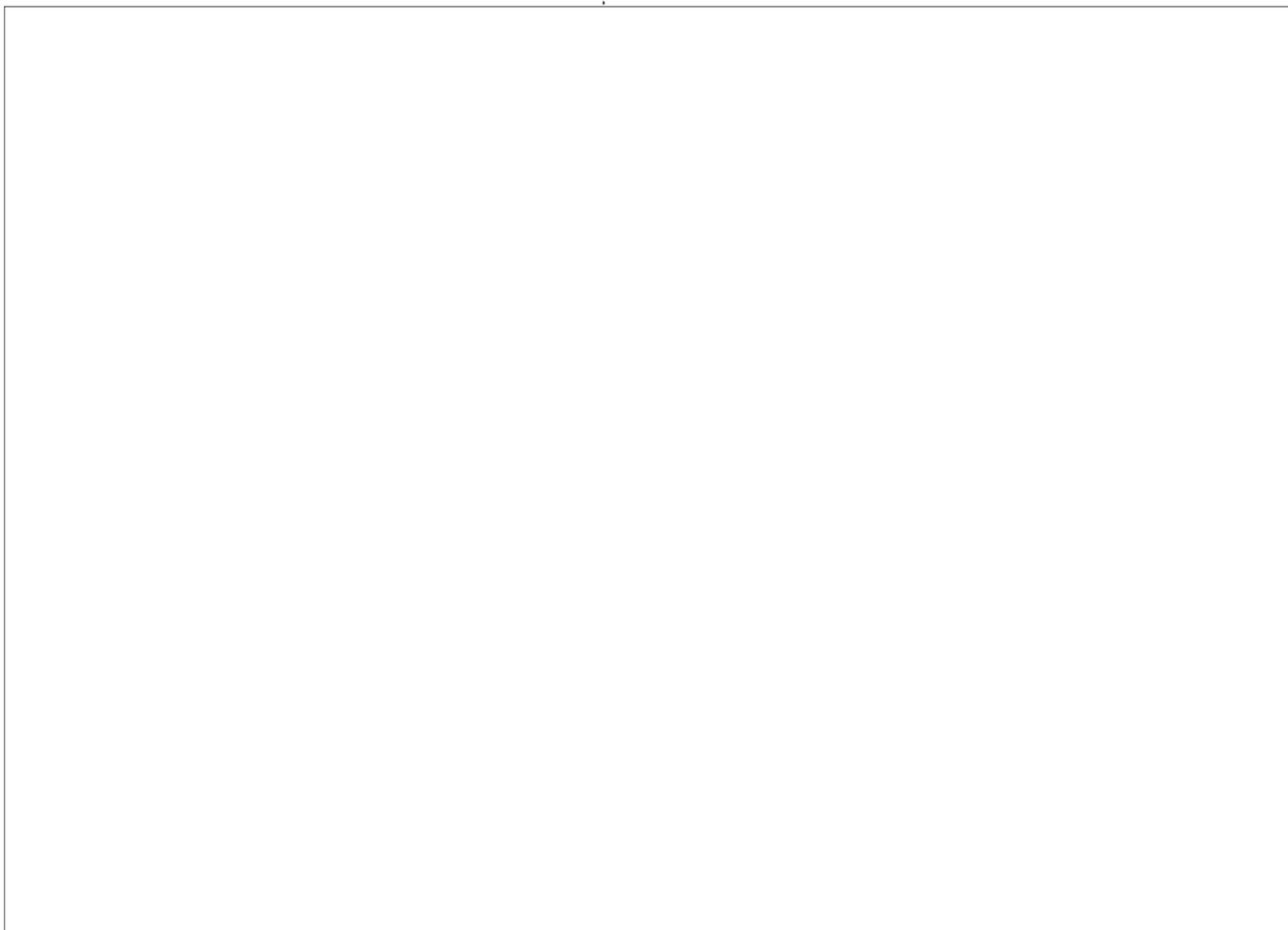
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18 - 20 NOVEMBER 1964

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20 November 1964

1. South Vietnam: Premier Huong is still very jumpy over the opposition to his government. Huong suspects General Khanh is maneuvering with the Buddhists and feels sure that some Buddhist leaders have neutralist or even Communist backing.

The Buddhists do indeed seem to favor Huong's removal although differing as to how this should be accomplished.

Meanwhile Viet Cong activity declined for the fourth straight week in part at least due to the floods. However, there are now signs that the Communists are preparing a new move in the south central area.

2. Communist China - North Vietnam: The Chinese Communists have begun constructing a major airfield at Ningming, just north of the Vietnamese border. Preliminary measurements of the runway based on aerial photography suggest that when completed it will be more than 9,000 feet long.

[redacted] the Chinese have steadily increased their air defense capability in the region along China's southern borders. As part of this program they have opened up a new fighter base at Nanning [redacted]

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3. Italy: The concept of center-left government faces a critical test in the nationwide municipal elections on Sunday and Monday.

The Socialists are likely to lose a considerable number of votes because of defections to the Socialist splinter party and disenchantment over the lack of progress on reforms.

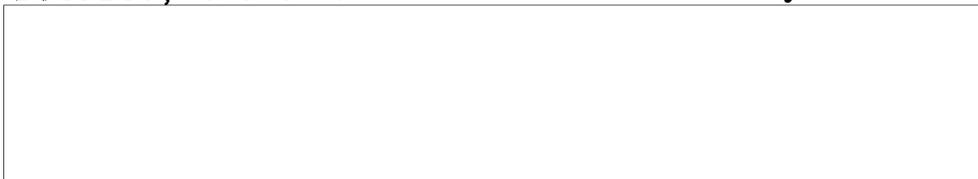
Should these losses go much beyond half a million votes, the Socialists might conclude that they have no alternative but to pull out of the government.

4. Panama: Panama's new negotiator on the Canal is reportedly due to arrive in Washington next week. He is Diogenes de la Rosa, a Marxist theoretician and founder of Panama's first Communist party. Though de la Rosa broke with the party some time back, he has maintained associations with individual Communists and supports some of their causes.

The choice of de la Rosa coupled with the earlier appointment of extremist Ernesto Castellero Pimentel as Foreign Ministry Coordinator for Canal negotiations does not augur well for the future progress of these talks.

5. MLF: The MLF fleet is still far from clear of the rocks and shoals. During the week the Turks pulled out, probably to make the going easier with the Soviets over Cyprus. The Italians are still far from signing up, and the British seem in no great hurry to complete their review and come up with a revised plan.

Though Gordon Walker chatted amiably with the Germans last week in Bonn, and the Foreign Office announced itself as pleased with the results, the Germans were far from swayed.



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Also, West German Foreign Minister Schroeder anxiously looking over his shoulder at Adenauer is still bent on getting the MLF package wrapped up soonest



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6. UN Article 19: The impasse continues with no way out yet in sight. Nigeria has undercut the "UN voluntary rescue fund" scheme by proposing an amendment that would in effect have the US contribution help pay for the Soviet debt.

Opinions still vary on how any vote on the Article 19 question would go.



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7. Communist China - UN: Peiping's chances for a UN seat seem to be getting better all the time. The Chinese Communists probably picked up the votes of Chad and Ethiopia this week, and Canada also is ready to throw in the sponge. Latest estimate of our delegation at the UN is that if the vote were taken today Peiping's cause would fall one short of a majority.

Thus it is particularly important that the 1961 "important question" ruling be reaffirmed at the upcoming session. This requires Peiping to receive a two-thirds majority to be seated. At the present time some of the countries which plan to vote for Communist China still appear willing to uphold the two-thirds requirement but significant erosion is possible between now and balloting time.

8. USSR-Cuba: Major Soviet military shipments to Cuba have tapered off in the past year. Only six such shipments have been made thus far in 1964 compared with 11 in 1963. The last full shipload of military materiel-- probably largely spare parts, maintenance equipment, and ammunition--arrived in mid-August.

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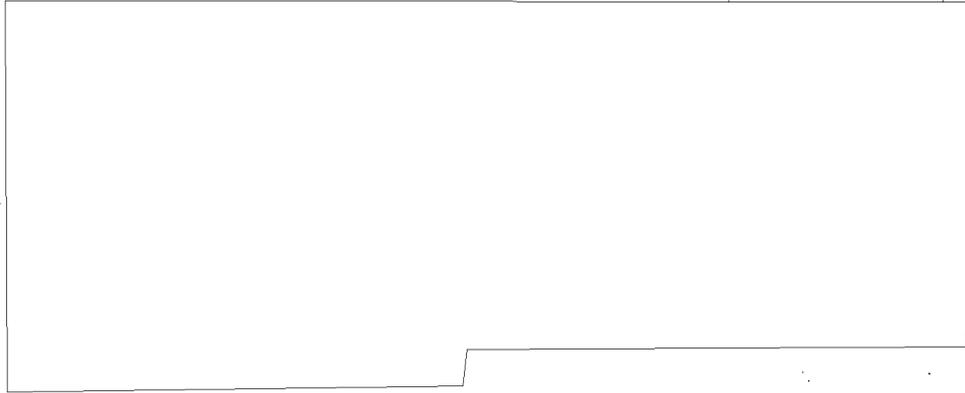


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9. Indonesia-Malaysia: Sukarno has announced a renewal of his "crush Malaysia campaign," and Indonesian infiltrations continue.

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